

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the size of the icon is selected from a limited number of discriminably different sizes.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the size of the icon has a continuously variable relationship with the third coordinate z .

7. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the size of the icon is directly proportional to the third coordinate z , such that a larger value of the third coordinate z is represented on the display by a larger size of the icon.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the size of the icon is inversely proportional to the third coordinate z , such that a larger value of the third coordinate z is represented on the display by a smaller size of the icon.

Claims 9-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A system for conveying aircraft altitude to a human observer, the system comprising:

a processor continuously receiving latitude, longitude, and altitude information relating to an aircraft, ~~the altitude information corresponding to an altitude of the aircraft relative to a geographic reference,~~ wherein the processor determines, based on the altitude information, a

shape for an icon representing the aircraft, wherein the shape is the sole indicator ~~indicative~~ of the altitude of the aircraft ~~relative to the geographic reference~~; and

a display in operable communication with the processor, the display providing a two-dimensional planar view and having a first axis representing latitude and a second axis representing longitude, wherein the processor directs the display to present the icon at a position on the display indicative of the latitude and longitude of the aircraft, wherein the shape of the displayed icon is the sole indicator ~~indicative~~ of the altitude of the aircraft ~~relative to the geographic reference~~, and wherein the processor directs the display to change the shape of the icon in response to receiving a change in the altitude information .

13. (Currently Amended) A method of conveying location of an object, the method comprising:
receiving location information continuously regarding the object, the location information including a first coordinate x , a second coordinate y , and a third coordinate z , wherein the third coordinate z represents an altitude of the object ~~relative to a geographic reference~~;

correlating the first and second coordinates (x,y) with a location of an icon on a display, the display providing a two-dimensional planar view and having a first axis representing the x coordinate and a second axis representing the y coordinate;

correlating the third coordinate z with a shape of the icon, wherein the icon shape is exclusively indicative of the value of the third coordinate z ; and

displaying the icon on the display, wherein the shape of the displayed icon changes in response to received changes in the value of the third coordinate z , and wherein the displayed icon has a position on the display indicative of the first and second coordinates (x,y) .

Claims 14-25 (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the size of the icon is selected from a limited number of discriminably different sizes.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein said correlating provides a continuously variable relationship between the size of the displayed icon and the third coordinate z .

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein said correlating provides a direct relationship between the size of the icon and the third coordinate z , such that a larger value of the third coordinate z results in a larger size of the displayed icon.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein said correlating provides an inverse relationship between the size of the icon and the third coordinate z , such that a larger value of the third coordinate z results in a smaller size of the displayed icon.

Claims 30-38 (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 13, further including:

correlating the third coordinate z with a size of the icon, wherein the icon is exclusively indicative of the value of the third coordinate z ; and

displaying the icon on the display, wherein the shape and the size of the displayed icon both change in response to changes in the received value of the third coordinate z .

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein the processor determines the size of the icon based on the altitude information, such that the icon presented on the display has both a shape and a size that are together, the sole indicators ~~indicative~~ of the altitude of the aircraft relative to the geographic reference, wherein the processor further directs the display to change both the size and the shape of the icon in response to receiving a change in the altitude information.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the processor receives altitude information from the aircraft itself.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the processor receives altitude information from a radar.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising receiving location information regarding the object from the object itself.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising receiving location information regarding the object from a radar.

49. (New) The system of claim 12, wherein the processor directs the display to change only the shape of the icon in response to receiving a change in the altitude information .

50. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein only the shape of the displayed icon changes in response to receiving changes in the value of the third coordinate z.

51. (New) A method of conveying aircraft information visually to a user, the method comprising:

continuously receiving latitude, longitude, and altitude information relating to an aircraft;
selecting an icon to represent one of latitude, longitude, and altitude, wherein the shape of the icon, by itself, is capable of conveying visually to a user the selected one of latitude, longitude, and altitude information;

presenting the icon to a user on a display, wherein the shape of the icon is the only way the respective one of latitude, longitude, and altitude information is visually conveyed to the user, and wherein the icon is presented on a position on the display indicative of the other two of latitude, longitude, and altitude of the aircraft; and

in response to receiving a change in the respective one of latitude, longitude, and altitude information, changing the shape of the icon, wherein the change in shape is discriminable to the user, and wherein the changed shape of the icon, by itself, is the only way the change in the respective one of latitude, longitude, and altitude information is visually conveyed to the user.

52. (New) The method of claim 51, further comprising

selecting a size for the icon, wherein the size of the icon, by itself, is indicative of one of the other two of latitude, longitude, and altitude of the aircraft and wherein the size of the icon is the only way the respective one of the other two of latitude, longitude, and altitude is conveyed visually to the user.